

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF SEDGEFIELD.



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING  
31st DECEMBER, 1938.

DURHAM :  
G. Bailes & Sons, Printers. Etc.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Sedgefield Rural  
District Council.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the 61st Annual Report upon the vital statistics and sanitary work of your district for the year ending 31st December, 1938.

The Registrar General has supplied the number and nature of the deaths from all causes, the number of births, and also the estimated population of the district. After correcting this estimate by subtracting the number of inmates undergoing treatment in the Durham County Mental Hospital, who do not belong to your district, I find the population to be 31,706.

The corrected figure, 31,706, is the basis upon which the birth-rate and death-rate are calculated.

**General Statistics.**

Area : 39,212 acres.

Population : 31,706.

Number of inhabited houses, Dec. 31st, 1938 : 7,733.

Rateable Value : £113,477.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £412.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,  
AND MATERNAL DEATH-RATES IN THE YEAR 1938.

|                                |     |     |     |     | ENGLAND AND<br>WALES.  | SEDGEFIELD<br>RURAL DISTRICT. |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|-------------------------------|
|                                |     |     |     |     | Rates per 1,000 Population.                                    |                               |
| BIRTHS :—                      |     |     |     |     |  |                               |
| Live                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15·1   | 17·18                         |
| Still                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·60   | 0 66                          |
| DEATHS :—                      |     |     |     |     |  |                               |
| All Causes                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11·6   | 11·41                         |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers |     |     |     |     | 0·00   | 0·00                          |
| Small-pox                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·00   | 0·00                          |
| Measles                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·04   | 0·03                          |
| Scarlet Fever                  |     |     | ... | ... | 0·01   | 0·00                          |
| Whooping-Cough                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·03   | 0·03                          |
| Diphtheria                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·07   | 0·18                          |
| Influenza                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·11   | 0·15                          |
|                                |     |     |     |     | Rates per 1,000 Live Births.                                   |                               |
| Deaths under 1 year of age     |     |     |     |     | 53   | 73                            |
| Deaths from Diarrhœa and       |     |     |     |     | 5·5  | 3·67                          |
| Enteritis under 2 years of age |     |     |     |     |  |                               |
| MATERNAL MORTALITY :—          |     |     |     |     |  |                               |
| Puerperal Sepsis               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·89   | 0·00                          |
| Others                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2·19   | 5·50                          |
| Total                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3·08   | 5·50                          |
|                                |     |     |     |     | Rates per 1,000 Total Births<br>( <i>i.e.</i> Live and Still). |                               |
| MATERNAL MORTALITY :—          |     |     |     |     |  |                               |
| Puerperal Sepsis               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0·86   | 0·00                          |
| Others                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2·11   | 5·30                          |
| Total                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2·97   | 5·30                          |

# Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year.

|                 |     |     | <i>Males.</i> | <i>Females.</i> | <i>Total.</i> |
|-----------------|-----|-----|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| LIVE BIRTHS :—  |     |     |               |                 |               |
| Legitimate      | ... | ... | 270           | 260             | 530           |
| Illegitimate    | ... | ... | 8             | 7               | 15            |
|                 |     |     | <hr/>         | <hr/>           | <hr/>         |
|                 |     |     | 278           | 267             | 545           |
|                 |     |     | <hr/>         | <hr/>           | <hr/>         |
| STILL BIRTHS :— |     |     |               |                 |               |
| Legitimate      | ... | ... | 10            | 11              | 21            |
| Illegitimate    | ... | ... | —             | —               | —             |
|                 |     |     | 10            | 11              | 21            |
|                 |     |     | <hr/>         | <hr/>           | <hr/>         |
| DEATHS :—       |     |     | 203           | 159             | 362           |

Birth Rate: 17·85.

Death Rate: All causes 11·41.

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age: 40.

Death-rate per 1000 births:—Legitimate 73·3

Illegitimate 0·00.

Infantile Mortality Rate:—70·6.

## Causes of Death.

|                                       |     |     |     |     | <i>Male.</i> | <i>Female.</i> |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|----------------|
| All causes                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 203          | 159            |
| Measles                               |     | ... | ... | ... | 1            | —              |
| Whooping Cough                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1            | —              |
| Influenza                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3            | 2              |
| Encephalitis Lethargica               | ... | ... | ... | ... | —            | —              |
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system... |     |     |     |     | 11           | 4              |
| Other tuberculous diseases            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1            | 4              |
| Syphilis                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2            | —              |
| Cancer, malignant disease             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24           | 16             |
| Diabetes                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1            | 2              |
| Cerebral Hæmorrhage                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16           | 18             |
| Heart Disease                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42           | 40             |
| Aneurysm                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | —            | —              |
| Other circulatory diseases            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7            | 8              |

|  | <i>Male.</i> | <i>Female.</i> |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Bronchitis ... ..  | 7            | 6              |
| Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..   | 15           | 10             |
| Other respiratory diseases ... ..                                    | —            | 2              |
| Peptic Ulcer ... ..  | —            | 1              |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..                                     | 1            | 1              |
| Cirrhosis of liver ... ..  | 1            | 1              |
| Other diseases of liver ... ..                                       | —            | 4              |
| Other digestive diseases ... ..                                      | 5            | 5              |
| Acute and chronic nephritis... ..                                    | 2            | 5              |
| Puerperal Sepsis ... ..  | —            | —              |
| Other puerperal cause ... ..   | —            | 3              |
| Congenital debility, premature birth,<br>mal-formations, etc. ... .. | 20           | 6              |
| Senility ... ..  | 4            | 3              |
| Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..  | 1            | —              |
| Diphtheria ... ..  | 4            | 2              |
| Scarlet fever ... ..   | —            | —              |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever ...                                    | —            | —              |
| General paralysis of the insane. tabes<br>dorsalis ... ..            | —            | —              |
| Appendicitis ... ..  | 2            | —              |
| Suicide ... ..   | 3            | 1              |
| Other violence ... ..  | 12           | 3              |
| Other defined diseases ... ..  | 17           | 10             |
| Causes ill-defined or unknown ...                                    | —            | 2              |

### **Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.**

Your Council employs a part-time Medical Officer of Health, two full-time qualified Sanitary Inspectors for the Northern Districts, and a Sanitary Surveyor who also acts as Sanitary Inspector for the Southern area.



### Social Conditions.

Coal mining is the chief industry in the area and other occupations of less numerical importance are Bye-Product Works, Agriculture, and Limestone Quarrying.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following table shows the figures obtained from the labour exchanges for the year.

|            |     | Jan., 1938. | Dec. 1938.  |
|------------|-----|-------------|---|
| Cornforth  | ... | 160         | 300 excludes Coxhoe                               |
| Ferryhill  | ... | 380         | 420   |
| Sedgefield | ... | 145         | 275 includes Fishburn<br>and Bishop<br>Middleham. |
| Trimdon    | ... | 247         | 314   |
| Chilton    | ... | 220         | 260   |

#### Summary of Nursing arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions available for the Sedgefield Rural District.

*Professional Nursing in the Home—(a) General:—*  
This work is performed by the district nursing associations, of which there are seven in the rural district, as follows:—  
Chilton, Cornforth, Ferryhill, Ferryhill Station, Fishburn, Sedgefield and Stillington.

These associations are under the supervision of the County Nursing Association, to which they are affiliated. Grants are paid to these associations by the County Council through the County Nursing Association, in accordance with the County Scheme of Grants to County Nursing Association in respect of Midwifery.

*(b) For Infectious Diseases, e.g. Measles, etc.:—*This work is also performed by district nursing associations, as above, but the County Council pay a grant to the County Nursing Association on behalf of approved associations on the following scale:—

£10 per annum in respect of each affiliated district nursing association, the population of whose area does not exceed 10,000, with an additional grant of £5 per 5,000 people in respect of nursing associations the population of whose area exceeds 10,000, subject to the arrangements made by the district nursing associations for the nursing of these cases being approved by the County Medical Officer. Sedgefield District Nursing Association does not undertake the nursing of these special diseases.

*Midwives.*—Sedgefield and Fishburn district nursing associations do midwifery work for which they each receive a grant of £30 per annum, plus 4/- bonus per case.

*Clinics and Treatment Centres.*—Maternity and Child Welfare.—There are five Welfare Centres situated within the Sedgefield Rural District: one at Sedgefield, one at Ferryhill, one at Fishburn, one at Chilton, and one at Trimdon.

There are no Day Nurseries or School Clinics under the control of the County Council in the Sedgefield Rural District.

*Tuberculosis Dispensaries.*—There are no T.B. Dispensaries situated in the area, but the following dispensaries serve the area :—Bishop Auckland, Stockton, West Hartlepool and Sherburn Hospital. All these premises either belong to or are hired by the County Council.

### **Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by Local Authority or County Council.**

(1) *Infectious Diseases.*—Cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever are admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Sedgefield. The hospital is owned by the Sedgefield Rural District Council.

(2) *Tuberculosis*.—The following is a list of sanatoria and hospitals in the County to which patients from Sedgefield Rural District may be sent for treatment:—

1. Holywood Hall Sanatorium, Wolsingham.
2. Sunderland Tuberculosis Hospital.
3. Stannington Children's Sanatorium.
4. Helmington Row Tuberculosis Hospital.
5. Tindale Crescent Tuberculosis Hospital.
6. Earl's House Sanatorium, Durham.
7. Seaham Hall Sanatorium.

(3) *Small Pox*.—Conjointly with the Easington Rural District Council and Seaham Harbour, the Local Authority provides accommodation for the reception of Small Pox cases at Thornley. The hospital is situated in Thornley Parish and contains 24 beds.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children in the district, other than the Poor Law Institution at Sedgefield St. Monica's Home, Bishop Auckland, admits unmarried mothers for confinement.

*Ambulance Facilities*.—Motor ambulances are in use at the Thornley Small Pox Hospital and the Isolation Hospital, Sedgefield.

For non-infectious cases ambulances are provided by the colliery companies for the use of their own employees, and two nursing associations in the district provide one for the use of their subscribers. Ambulances can also be hired from the neighbouring towns, whilst motor cars of various kinds are readily available in every township for the transport of suitable cases.

### Laboratory Work.

By arrangement between the County Council and the College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bacteriological



examinations and tests are carried out free of charge to all medical men practising in the district; complete outfits are provided and the results are returned to the medical practitioners and to the County Medical Officer of Health, from whom your medical officer receives a copy.

Full use is made of these facilities and the under-mentioned table shows the use made of it during the year:—

| Bacteriological Examinations for | Positive. | Negative. | Total.    |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Tubercle Bacillus ... ..         | 5         | 40        | 45        |
| Diphtheria Bacillus ... ..       | 15        | 36        | 51        |
| Typhoid Bacillus ... ..          | —         | —         | —         |
| Meningococcus ... ..             | 1         | —         | 1         |
| Hæmolytic Streptococci ... ..    | —         | —         | —         |
|                                  | <u>21</u> | <u>76</u> | <u>97</u> |

Since the commencement of the diphtheria epidemic in May, 1934, upon the advice of the Medical Officer, this Authority has sent its own nurse to swab the throats of all diphtheria 'contacts' and, subject to the consent of the parents, to give prophylactic injections of diphtheria anti-toxin to all 'child-contacts' free of charge.

The following figures represent the work carried out by the local authority during the year:—

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Throat swabs taken ... ..                                     | 601  |
| Nasal „ „ ... ..  | Nil. |
| Prophylactic Injections of diphtheria anti-toxin given ... .. | 89   |
| Virulence Tests ... ..  | 1    |

Diphtheria Antitoxin is gratuitously supplied to all medical men practising in your area, upon application to your medical officer, and the medical practitioners have been circularised to the effect that sterilised syringes and



concentrated anti-toxin in 4,000 unit phials are available for use at any hour (day or night) upon application to the hospital.

### **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

#### **WATER.**

The Ferryhill, Chilton, Cornforth, Trimdon, Mainsforth, Bishop Middleham, Thrislington, Fishburn, Sedgfield and Bradbury Townships have their water supplied by the Durham County Water Board. The outlying farms and cottages in these Townships obtain their water from wells and springs.

With the exception of the out-lying premises water is supplied by the Tees Valley Water Board to the Stillington Township.

The water supplies in Mordon are derived from private wells, and a piped supply owned by the London and North Eastern Railway Company. In addition, however, there is a pump and well in the Village of Mordon which is maintained by your authority.

Butterwick, Old Acres, Elstob, and Preston-le-Skerne derive their water supplies chiefly from privately owned wells and springs, but certain premises in each parish obtain a water supply from water mains owned by the London and North Eastern Railway Company. The water supplied by this Company is supplied to them in bulk by the Durham County Water Board.

Certain premises in the Woodham and Windlestone Parishes are supplied with water by meter from the Durham County Water Board through a privately owned pipe line. The remainder of the premises in these Parishes obtain their water from wells and springs.

The water supplies for Embleton, Foxton and Shotton Parishes are derived from springs and wells.

The quality of the water supplied by the Durham County Water Board leaves nothing to be desired, and has not been analysed by this Authority during the year. The supply generally is abundant but complaints of acute shortage are received from the higher parts of Ferryhill, Sedgfield, and Trimdon Village. The Durham County Water Board are now taking steps to abate this shortage in Ferryhill.

Samples of water have been taken from certain wells in the District and the results showed that the water did not contain any dangerous impurities.

*Drainage and Sewerage.*—The whole of your district is drained and sewerred. The sewage disposal works consist for the most part of detritus and precipitation tanks and filter beds, together with land for final treatment.

In other parts of your district precipitation and land irrigation are employed ; whilst the hamlet of Mordon is provided with settling tanks only. These arrangements have so far proved adequate and satisfactory.

New sewage disposal works are being constructed for the Township of Fishburn to replace the existing works. These works comprise a small automatic pumping plant, balancing tank, settling tanks, continuous filters, humus tanks, sludge beds, and lands for irrigation purposes.

*Rivers and Streams.*—These are periodically inspected and reported upon by the County Council Official. The various bye-product works are the principal offenders in the matter of pollution, as testified by the Inspector's reports which are submitted to your Council.

*Public Cleansing.*—The removal of house refuse, and the cleansing of ash-closets, privies and ash-pits are done by direct labour with motor lorries in part of the Chilton, Ferryhill, Trimdon, Cornforth, Fishburn Townships and in the whole of the Bradbury and Mordon Parishes. The remainder of the district is done by contract.

All work is required to be done by night with covered vehicles. Your Council provide and maintain tips in most of the Townships, while farmers utilise some of this refuse for manuring the land. The chief method of disposal is “controlled” tipping.

*Shops and Offices.*—Inspections under the Shops Act, 1934, continue to be carried out with regard to ventilation and temperature in shops and the provision of sufficient sanitary accommodation. Two informal notices have been served with satisfactory results.

*Camping Sites.*—No camping sites exist in your area.

**Table showing the Various Types of Closet Accommodation at the end of the year.**

| Township.         | Water-closets. | Ash Closets. | Ashpit Privies |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Ferryhill ...     | 2,774          | 120          | —              |
| Chilton ...       | 1,379          | 12           | —              |
| Trimdon ...       | 804            | 352          | 82             |
| Cornforth ...     | 1,134          | 37           | —              |
| Bishop Middleham  | 273            | 12           | 28             |
| Fishburn ...      | 658            | —            | 10             |
| Mainsforth ...    | 61             | 15           | —              |
| Thrislington ...  | 9              | 10           | 3              |
| Southern District | 521            | 199          | 113            |
| 1938 Totals ...   | 7,613          | 757          | 236            |
| 1937 Totals ...   | 7,138          | 915          | 238            |



*Closet Accommodations.*—During the year sanitary conversions have been carried out in the following Townships:—

|                  |     |     |                |
|------------------|-----|-----|----------------|
| Ferryhill        | ... | ... | 8 conversions. |
| Cornforth        | ... | ... | 15 „           |
| Chilton          | ... | ... | 83 „           |
| Trimdon          | ... | ... | 50 „           |
| Bishop Middleham | ... | ... | 2 „            |
| Mainsforth       | ... | ... | 1 „            |
| Thrislington     | ... | ... | 2 „            |
|                  |     |     | <hr/>          |
|                  |     |     | 161            |
|                  |     |     | <hr/>          |

### **Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Byelaws and Regulations.**

(1) *Lodging Houses.*—There are now no Common Lodging Houses in your area.

(2) *Factories and Workshops.*—There are 56 of these in the district in addition to eight bakeries. Notice requiring cleansing and repairs to sanitary convenience has been served in one case.

(3) *Schools.*—These are regularly inspected and reported upon from time to time by the County School Medical Officer and the health of the scholars also comes under his purview. I am kept informed of any absentees suffering from or having come in contact with infectious diseases, and these are promptly dealt with in the ordinary routine of my duties.

*Swimming Baths and Pools.*—No such Baths or Pools exist in your area.



## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year twelve Council houses and thirty-nine private house were found to be infested. These were treated by spraying with 'Zaldicide' or by fumigation using "Foompest," when spraying is carried out free ventilation must be obtained. For fumigation the houses are sealed, and opened at the end of six hours. Both methods have been found to be satisfactory. Furniture from an infested house is removed to a specially constructed wood hut and fumigated before being transferred to the new house.

## Housing.

114 houses and 6 bungalows have been erected by your Council and occupied during the year. 216 houses are in course of erection to meet the needs of overcrowding and condemned houses in the district, and also 94 bungalows for aged persons.

The inspection of houses in the Trimdon, Cornforth and Thrislington Townships were carried out during the year and a number of Clearance Areas have been submitted for consideration and enquiry.

Two housing inquiries were held by the Ministry of Health during 1938. These inquiries concerned some 201 houses in the Trimdon Township. With the exception of two houses the Ministry of Health confirmed the Orders against these houses.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

|                                 |     |     |     |      |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (1) By the Local Authority      | ... | ... | ... | 120  |
| (2) By other Local Authorities  | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |
| (3) By other bodies and persons | ... | ... | ... | 95   |

## 1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

|  |        |      |
|--|--------|------|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)   | ...    | 844  |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose   | ...    | 1125 |
| 2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925        | ... .. | 466  |
| (b) and the number of inspections made   | ... .. | 651  |
| 3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                    | ... .. | 265  |
| 4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | ... .. | 99   |

## 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | ... .. | 149 |
|---|--------|-----|

## 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

## A.—Proceedings under Section S.9, 10 &amp; 16, of the Housing Act, 1936:

|   |        |      |
|---|--------|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... .. | 10   |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:— |        |      |
| (a) By Owners   | ... .. | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners...  |        | Nil. |

## B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

|  |        |      |
|--|--------|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ...    | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—         |        |      |
| (a) By Owners  | ... .. | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners  | ...    | Nil. |

## C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

|   |        |    |
|---|--------|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... .. | 11 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders    | ... .. | 2  |

- |  |     |     |     |     |      |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted that houses would not be used for human habitation        | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted that the house would be rendered fit for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20   |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- |   |     |     |      |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | ... | ... | 9    |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | Nil. |

#### 4. OVERCROWDING.

- |  |     |       |
|--|-----|-------|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year           | ... | 390   |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein                         | ... | 418   |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein                         | ... | 2,087 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | ... | 24    |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ... | 149   |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases                   | ... | 863   |

No cases of overcrowding again occurred after abatement, and the work of approaching owners for a system of exchange continues with satisfactory results. The erection of three hundred and thirty houses and one hundred bungalows to provide for slum clearance and overcrowding is now well forward and these will undoubtedly clear up most of the overcrowding difficulties in your area.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

*Milk Supply.*—The supply of milk in the district is adequate and a good class of cow is kept in healthier byres.

Samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological analysis with generally satisfactory results.

Accredited milk is being produced at 11 farms in the district. No “Tuberculin Tested” or “Pasteurised” milk



is produced in the district, but supplies of Pasteurised milk are available.

*Meat.*—During the year 28 slaughterhouses in your district have been inspected regularly and the animals slaughtered are examined as far as possible at the time of slaughter. The diseased and unfit meat destroyed during the year amounted to 266 stones, the chief disease found being Tuberculosis.

Shops, butchers' carts and market stalls where meat is exposed for sale are also regularly inspected.

Food adulteration is under the supervision of the County Authority.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

|  | Cattle ex-<br>cluding<br>Cows. | Cows. | Calves. | Sheep and<br>Lambs. | Pigs. |
|--|--------------------------------|-------|---------|---------------------|-------|
| NUMBER KILLED ... ..   | 1615                           | 47    | 38      | 3724                | 1693  |
| NUMBER INSPECTED ... ..  | 1594                           | 41    | 30      | 3683                | 1664  |
| ALL DISEASES EXCEPT<br>TUBERCULOSIS.   |                                |       |         |                     |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned  | Nil.                           | Nil.  | Nil.    | 3                   | 4     |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned...  | 34                             | 3     | 2       | 10                  | 20    |
| Percentage of the number<br>inspected affected with<br>disease other than tuber-<br>culosis ... .. | 2.133                          | 7.317 | 6.666   | .381                | 1.442 |
| TUBERCULOSIS.  |                                |       |         |                     |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned  | 6                              | 2     | Nil.    | Nil.                | Nil.  |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was condemned...  | 65                             | 6     | Nil.    | Nil.                | 30    |
| Percentage of the number<br>inspected affected with<br>tuberculosis ... ..                         | 4.45                           | 19.51 | Nil.    | Nil.                | 1.803 |



## SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1938.

| (1)—PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.             | Number of<br>Informal<br>Written<br>Notices by<br>Inspector | Number of<br>Formal<br>Notices by<br>order of<br>Authority | Number of<br>Nuisances<br>abated after<br>Notice. |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Dwelling Houses :—                  |   |  |   |
| Foul Conditions ...                 | 10  | —  | 10  |
| Structural Defects ... ..           | 152   | —  | 123   |
| Overcrowding ... ..                 | 39  | —  | 27  |
| Lodging Houses ... ..               | —   | —  | —   |
| Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ... | 21  | —  | 21  |
| Bakehouses ... ..                   | 1   | —  | 1   |
| Slaughter Houses ... ..             | 7   | —  | 7   |
| Ashpits and Privies ... ..          | 13  | 91   | 98  |
| Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...   | 17  | —  | 17  |
| Water Closets ... ..                | 7   | —  | 7   |
| Defective Yard Paving ... ..        | 12  | —  | 10  |
| House Drainage ... ..               | 118   | —  | 100   |
| Water Supply ... ..                 | 4   | —  | 4   |
| Pigsties ... ..                     | 5   | —  | 5   |
| Animals improperly kept ... ..      | —   | —  | —   |
| Other Nuisances ... ..              | 49  | —  | 40  |
| <b>TOTALS ... ..</b>                | <b>455</b>  | <b>91</b>  | <b>470</b>  |

### (2)—*Precautions against Infectious Disease :—*

Houses disinfected after Infectious disease 172

Schools disinfected after Infectious disease 3

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

### SCARLET FEVER.

61 cases of scarlet fever were notified during 1938 as against 52 for 1937.

All cases were admitted to hospital and all recovered.

## DIPHTHERIA.

During 1938, 88 cases of diphtheria were notified as against 83 in 1937. Six deaths occurred.

## CONTROL OF INFECTION.

All cases were notified by telephone and removed without delay to your hospital.

As in the past four years, the throats of all 'contacts' were swabbed in order to detect any 'carriers' and injections of anti-toxin offered free of charge.

89 injections of anti-toxin were given to diphtheria 'contacts,' mainly children, and 601 throat swabs taken. All 'carriers' discovered were warned as to their condition and 'swabbed' until free from infection. Virulence tests were carried out in the case of persistent 'carriers.'

## ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Free public artificial immunization against diphtheria is available to all residents in the Sedgefield Rural District.

This service has been well advertised and is carried out by the family doctors under agreement with the Council.

## THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

One hundred and fifty-one cases were admitted to your Isolation Hospital during 1938 as against one hundred and fifty-eight in 1937.

Admissions were as follows:—

(a) From Sedgefield Rural District: —

61 cases of Scarlet Fever.

88 cases of Diphtheria.

1 case of Erysipelas.

1 case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.—No action has been necessary under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.—No action has been necessary under this Section.

Disinfection is carried out by means of the formalin lamp vapourizer at the home of every infectious case, either after removal to hospital, or after recovery at home, or as soon after death as possible. Arrangements are also made for the stoving of bedding and wearing apparel.

Infectious excreta is limed and deeply buried, and the privies cleansed and disinfected with Thymo-Cresol and disinfecting powder.

Arrangements are made for the gratuitous supply of disinfecting fluid to all applicants to the sanitary inspectors.

SMALL-POX.—Your district was completely free from Small-Pox during 1938.

CANCER.—During 1938, Cancer was given as the cause of death in 40 cases, as against 42 cases in 1937.

Three occurred between the age of 30 and 45 years, 18 between 45 and 65 years and 19 over 65 years.

#### NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

This continues to be satisfactory. No cases of wilful neglect to notify occurred during the year. There were 20 deaths from all forms of tuberculosis, all of which were notified during life.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, in concluding my report, I desire to thank all members of the Council and their staff for the valuable help and encouragement they have afforded me throughout the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. V. HINDHAUGH,  
Medical Officer of Health.



## ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1938—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

|  | At all Ages. | AGE GROUPS. |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Hospital. | Total Deaths. | 65 and over. | 45—65. | 35—45. | 20—35. | 15—20. | 10—15. | 5—10. | 4—5. | 3—4. | 2—3. | 1—2. | Under one year. | Home |     |     |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|------|------|------|------|-----------------|------|-----|-----|
|  |              |             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |           |               |              |        |        |        |        |        |       |      |      |      |      |                 |      |     |     |
| Scarlet Fever                              | 61           | 1           | 1   | 2   | 1   | 8   | 25  | 18  | 4   | 2   | 3   | 10  | 4   | 6   | 61        | 6             | 4            | 2      | 3      | 8      | 10     | 2      | 1     | 2    | 1    | 1    | 6    | 24              | 174  | 35  |     |
| Diphtheria                                 | 88           | 1           | 1   | 4   | 5   | 36  | 36  | 14  | 13  | 8   | 8   | 10  | 4   | 88  | 11        | 4             | 2            | 3      | 8      | 10     | 2      | 3      | 10    | 4    | 6    | 6    | 24   | 174             | 35   |     |     |
| Erysipelas                                 | 17           | 1           | 1   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2         | 2             | 2            | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2     | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2               | 2    | 2   |     |
| Encephalitis Lethargica                    | 2            | 2           | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2         | 2             | 2            | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2     | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2               | 2    | 2   |     |
| Puerperal Pyrexia                          | 2            | 2           | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2         | 2             | 2            | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2     | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2               | 2    | 2   |     |
| Puerperal Fever                            | 2            | 2           | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2         | 2             | 2            | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2     | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2               | 2    | 2   |     |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum                      | 1            | 1           | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1         | 1             | 1            | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1     | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1               | 1    | 1   |     |
| Smallpox                                   | 4            | 4           | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 4         | 4             | 4            | 4      | 4      | 4      | 4      | 4      | 4     | 4    | 4    | 4    | 4    | 4               | 4    | 4   |     |
| Dysentery                                  | 2            | 2           | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2         | 2             | 2            | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2     | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2    | 2               | 2    | 2   |     |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever                       | 1            | 1           | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1         | 1             | 1            | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1     | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1               | 1    | 1   |     |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis                     | 1            | 1           | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1         | 1             | 1            | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1     | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1               | 1    | 1   |     |
| Meningitis                                 | 1            | 1           | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1         | 1             | 1            | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1     | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1               | 1    | 1   |     |
| Pneumonia (Acute, Primary, and Influenzal) | 33           | 33          | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33  | 33        | 33            | 33           | 33     | 33     | 33     | 33     | 33     | 33    | 33   | 33   | 33   | 33   | 33              | 33   | 33  |     |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)      | ...          | ...         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ...       | ...           | ...          | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...             | ...  | ... | ... |
| Totals                                     | 209          | 3           | 1   | 6   | 5   | 14  | 64  | 33  | 18  | 20  | 10  | 27  | 8   | 32  | 174       | 35            | ...          | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...             | ...  | ... |     |

TUBERCULOSIS (NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938).

| AGE PERIODS.   | NEW CASES.   |          |                  |          | DEATHS.      |          |                  |          |
|----------------|--------------|----------|------------------|----------|--------------|----------|------------------|----------|
|                | RESPIRATORY. |          | NON-RESPIRATORY. |          | RESPIRATORY. |          | NON-RESPIRATORY. |          |
|                | Males.       | Females. | Males.           | Females. | Males.       | Females. | Males.           | Females. |
| Under one year | —            | —        | —                | —        | —            | —        | —                | —        |
| 1 to 5         | —            | —        | 2                | —        | —            | —        | 1                | 1        |
| 5 " 10         | —            | 1        | —                | 2        | —            | —        | —                | —        |
| 10 " 15        | —            | —        | 2                | 4        | —            | —        | —                | —        |
| 15 " 20        | 2            | 2        | 1                | 2        | 1            | —        | —                | 1        |
| 20 " 25        | 2            | 2        | —                | 2        | 2            | 1        | —                | —        |
| 25 " 35        | 3            | 3        | 2                | 1        | 3            | 1        | —                | —        |
| 35 " 45        | 3            | 3        | —                | —        | 1            | 1        | —                | 2        |
| 45 " 55        | 2            | —        | —                | —        | 1            | 1        | —                | —        |
| 55 " 65        | 1            | 2        | —                | —        | 3            | —        | —                | —        |
| 65 and upwards | —            | —        | —                | —        | —            | —        | —                | —        |
| TOTALS         | 13           | 13       | 7                | 11       | 11           | 4        | 1                | 4        |
| 26             |              |          |                  | 18       | 15           | 5        | 20               |          |

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.  
INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY  
INSPECTORS.

| Premises.<br><br>(1)                                   | Number of           |                            |                                 |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  | Inspections.<br>(2) | Written<br>Notices.<br>(3) | Occupiers<br>prosecuted.<br>(4) |
| FACTORIES ... ..<br>(Including Factory Laundries).     | —                   | —                          | —                               |
| WORKSHOPS ... ..<br>(Including Workshop Laundries).    | 51                  | 1                          | —                               |
| WORKPLACES ... ..<br>(Other than Outworkers' Premises) | —                   | —                          | —                               |
| TOTAL ... ..   | 51                  | 1                          | —                               |

## 2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

| Particulars.<br>(1)   | Number of Defects. |                 |                                    | Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.<br>(5) |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|
|   | Found.<br>(2)      | Remedied<br>(3) | Referred to H.M. Inspector.<br>(4) |   |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>   |                    |                 |                                    |   |
| Want of cleanliness ... ..  | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| Want of ventilation ... ..  | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| Overcrowding ... ..   | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| Want of drainage of floors ...  | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| Other Nuisances ... ..  | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| Sanitary accommodation { insufficient ...   | 1                  | 1               | —                                  | —   |
| { unsuitable or defective   | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| { not separate for sexes  | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| <i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>  |                    |                 |                                    |   |
| Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101) ... ..  | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| Other offences ... ..   | —                  | —               | —                                  | —   |
| (Excluding offences relating to out-work and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921). |                    |                 |                                    |   |
| <b>TOTAL ... ..</b>   | <b>1</b>           | <b>1</b>        | <b>—</b>                           | <b>—</b>  |

\*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

J. C. V. HINDHAUGH,

Medical Officer of Health.





